

MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

1. SUBSTANCE AND SOURCE IDENTIFICATION

National Institute of Standards and Technology
Standard Reference Materials Program
100 Bureau Drive, Stop 2320
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899-2320

SRM Number: 3119a
MSDS Number: 3119a
SRM Name: Gallium Standard Solution

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MSDS Coordinator: Mario J. Cellarosi
Telephone: 301-975-6776
FAX: 301-926-4751
E-mail: SRMMSDS@nist.gov

Emergency Telephone ChemTrec:
1-800-424-9300 (North America)
+1-703-527-3887 (International)

Description: This Standard Reference Material (SRM) is intended for use as a primary calibration standard for the quantitative determination of gallium. One unit of SRM 3119a consists of five 10-mL sealed borosilicate glass ampoules of an acidified aqueous solution prepared gravimetrically to contain a known mass fraction of gallium. The solution contains nitric acid at a volume fraction of approximately 10 %.

Material Name: Gallium Standard Solution

Other Designations:

Gallium: Ga; elemental gallium

Gallium Nitrate: Gallium trinitrate; gallium (III) nitrate; nitric acid, gallium (3+) salt; Ganite®.

Nitric Acid: Aqua fortis; hydronitrate; azotic acid; engraver's acid.

2. COMPOSITION AND INFORMATION ON HAZARDOUS INGREDIENTS

Component	CAS Registry	EC Number (EINECS)	Concentration (%)
Nitric Acid	7697-37-2	231-714-2	10
Gallium Nitrate	13494-90-1	236-815-5	3.7
Gallium	7440-55-3	231-163-8	1

EC Classification, R/S Phrases: Refer to Section 15, Regulatory Information.

3. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

NFPA Ratings (Scale 0-4): Health = 4 Fire = 0 Reactivity = 2

Major Health Hazards: Nitric acid can cause severe or fatal burns if inhaled, swallowed, or absorbed through the skin. Gallium and gallium nitrate may irritate the skin, eyes, and respiratory tract, and may damage the liver or other organs.

Physical Hazards: Glass container may break or shatter.

Potential Health Effects

Inhalation:	Nitric acid can damage the mucous membranes and respiratory tract, causing spasm, inflammation of the larynx and bronchi, chemical pneumonitis, and pulmonary edema. Symptoms may include burning sensation, coughing, wheezing, laryngitis, shortness of breath, headache, nausea, and vomiting. Teeth may also be damaged. Inhalation of gallium or gallium nitrate may irritate the respiratory tract; other effects may include itching, sensitivity to heat, and an increased awareness of odor and taste. Some rare earth elements and compounds may cause lung granulomas.
Skin Contact:	Nitric acid can cause severe skin burns. Effects of acid burns may be delayed. Skin contact with gallium or its compounds may cause severe skin irritation and dermatitis. If skin is abraded, hair loss and scar formation may result.
Eye Contact:	Nitric acid can cause severe eye irritation, corneal burns, permanent eye damage, or blindness. Gallium and gallium nitrate may cause eye irritation or damage.
Ingestion:	Nitric acid can cause severe burns and damage to the GI tract. The oral toxicity of gallium is expected to be low due to poor absorption. Gallium nitrate may reduce blood calcium levels. Repeated or prolonged exposure to nitrates in general may cause anemia and kidney disease. These compounds are also likely to irritate the GI tract, causing abdominal pain, nausea, and/or diarrhea. Liver damage may occur, and blood clotting time may be affected.

Medical Conditions Aggravated by Exposure: Pre-existing disorders of the eyes, skin, respiratory tract, GI tract, kidneys, or other target organs; hemophilia, anticoagulant therapy, or other conditions that interfere with blood clotting; calcium deficiency or associated conditions such as osteoporosis.

Listed as a Carcinogen/ Potential Carcinogen:

	Yes	No
In the National Toxicology Program (NTP) Report on Carcinogens	_____	<u> X </u>
In the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) Monographs	_____	<u> X </u>
By the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)	_____	<u> X </u>

4. FIRST AID MEASURES

Inhalation: Move the person to fresh air immediately. If not breathing, qualified personnel may start CPR or give oxygen if necessary. Get medical aid at once, and bring the container or label.

Skin Contact: Remove contaminated clothing and shoes. Flush affected skin with water for at least 15 minutes, then wash thoroughly with soap and water. If burns are severe or if skin irritation persists, get medical aid and bring the container or label. Wash contaminated clothing before reusing.

Eye Contact: Remove contact lenses (if any). Do not allow victim to rub eyes or keep eyes closed. Flush eyes with large amounts of running water for at least 30 minutes, keeping eyelids open and raising lids to remove all chemical. Get medical aid at once, and bring the container or label.

Ingestion: Contact a poison control center immediately for instructions. Wash out mouth with water, but do not induce vomiting. Get medical aid at once, and bring the container or label.

Note to Physician (Nitric Acid): Wash affected skin with 5% solution of sodium bicarbonate (NaHCO₂). Activated charcoal is of no value. Do not give bicarbonate to neutralize the material.

5. FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

Fire and Explosion Hazards: Nitric acid is a powerful oxidizing agent that can react with combustible materials to cause fires. Gallium nitrate is also a strong oxidizer. No data are available for the mixture, and its behavior may differ from that of the individual components.

Extinguishing Media: Use extinguishing media appropriate to the surrounding fire: water spray, dry chemical, carbon dioxide, or foam. Use a water spray to dilute nitric acid and to absorb liberated oxides of nitrogen. (These guidelines apply to the mixture; when the components are considered separately, different precautions may apply.)

Fire Fighting: Avoid inhalation of material or combustion byproducts. Wear full protective clothing and NIOSH-approved self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA).

Flash Point (°C): N/A

Autoignition (°C): N/A

Lower Explosive Limit (LEL): N/A

Upper Explosive Limit (UEL): N/A

Flammability Class (OSHA): N/A

6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

Occupational Release: Notify safety personnel of spills. Surfaces contaminated with this material should be covered with soda ash or sodium bicarbonate to neutralize the acid. Place the neutralized material into containers suitable for eventual disposal, reclamation, or destruction.

Disposal: Refer to Section 13, Disposal Considerations.

7. HANDLING AND STORAGE

Storage: Store unopened containers of this material in a dry place at room temperature. Protect from physical damage, heat, and light, and isolate from incompatible materials. Use opened containers immediately or discard. Do not store gallium in metal containers.

Safe Handling Precautions: Wear gloves and chemical safety goggles (Section 8). If contact with this material occurs, wash hands or change clothing as required. Engineering controls should maintain airborne concentrations below TLV (Section 8).

8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS AND PERSONAL PROTECTION

Nitric Acid:

ACGIH TLV-TWA: 2 ppm or 5 mg/m³

OSHA TLV-TWA: 2 ppm or 5 mg/m³

UK WEL: 5.2 mg/m³

Gallium Nitrate:

OSHA TLV-TWA: None established. Total nuisance dust, 15 mg/m³; respirable dust, 5 mg/m³

ACGIH TLV-TWA: None established. Total nuisance dust, 10 mg/m³; respirable dust, 3 mg/m³

UK WEL: None established. Total inhalable dust, 10 mg/m³; respirable dust, 4 mg/m³

Gallium:

OSHA TLV-TWA: None established. Total nuisance dust, 15 mg/m³; respirable dust, 5 mg/m³

ACGIH TLV-TWA: None established. Total nuisance dust, 10 mg/m³; respirable dust, 3 mg/m³

UK WEL: None established. Total inhalable dust, 10 mg/m³; respirable dust, 4 mg/m³

Ventilation: Use local or general exhaust to keep employee exposures below limits. Local exhaust ventilation is preferred because it can control contaminant emissions at the source, preventing dispersion into the general work area. Refer to the ACGIH document *Industrial Ventilation, a Manual of Recommended Practices*.

Respirator: If necessary, refer to the NIOSH document *Guide to the Selection and Use of Particulate Respirators Certified under 42 CFR 84* for selection and use of respirators certified by NIOSH.

Eye Protection: Use chemical safety goggles where dusting or splashing of solutions may occur. See OSHA standard (29 CFR 1910.133) or European Standard EN166. The employer should provide an emergency eye wash fountain and safety shower in the immediate work area.

Personal Protection: Wear appropriate gloves and protective clothing to prevent contact with skin.

9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

Nitric Acid	Gallium Nitrate	Gallium
Appearance and Odor: Colorless to slightly yellow liquid, darkens to brown upon aging and exposure to light; irritating, pungent odor.	Appearance and Odor: White crystals, deliquescent.	Appearance and Odor: Silver liquid or grayish metallic solid, with greenish-blue reflection.
Relative Molecular Weight: 63.02	Relative Molecular Weight: 255.75	Relative Molecular Weight: 69.72
Molecular Formula: HNO ₃	Molecular Formula: Ga(NO ₃) ₃	Molecular Formula: Ga
Specific Gravity: 1.0543 (10%)	Specific Gravity: N/A	Specific Gravity: 5.9
Solvent Solubility: Decomposes in alcohol	Solvent Solubility: Soluble in absolute ethanol; insoluble in ether	Solvent Solubility: Soluble in acids; slightly soluble in mercury; insoluble in alkali
Water Solubility: Soluble	Water Solubility: Soluble	Water Solubility: Insoluble
Boiling Point (°C): 86 (187°F)	Boiling Point (°C): N/A	Boiling Point (°C): 2400 (4352°F)
Melting Point (°C): -42 (-43.6°F)	Melting Point (°C): 110 (230°F)	Melting Point (°C): 29.8 (85.6°F)
Vapor Pressure (Pa): 946 @20°C	Vapor Pressure (Pa): Negligible	Vapor Pressure (Pa): Negligible
Vapor Density (Air=1): 2.17	Vapor Density (Air=1): N/A	Vapor Density (Air=1): N/A
Critical Solution Temperature: N/A	Critical Solution Temperature: N/A	Critical Solution Temperature: N/A
pH: 1.0 (0.1M solution)	pH: N/A	pH: N/A

NOTE: The physical and chemical data provided are for the pure components. Physical and chemical data for this solution do not exist. The actual behavior of the solution may differ from the individual components.

10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

Stability: X Stable Unstable

Stable at normal temperatures and pressure.

Conditions to Avoid: Incompatible materials, combustible materials, heat, ignition sources, mechanical shock.

Incompatible Materials:

Nitric Acid: Incompatible with numerous materials including organic materials, plastics, rubber, chlorine, and metal ferrocyanide.

Gallium Nitrate: Incompatible with metals, metal salts, combustible materials, cyanides.

Gallium: Incompatible with metals, strong oxidizers and acids, peroxides, halogens, phosphorus, sulfur, and oxygen.

Fire/Explosion Information: See Section 5.

Hazardous Decomposition: Thermal decomposition of this material may produce oxides of nitrogen and gallium.

Hazardous Polymerization: ☐ Will Occur ☒ Will Not Occur

11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Route of Entry: ☒ Inhalation ☒ Skin ☒ Ingestion

Nitric Acid:

Human, oral: LD_{Lo} = 430 mg/kg

Rat, oral: LD₅₀ > 90 mg/kg

Rat, inhalation: LC₅₀ (4 hrs) = 130 mg/m³

Gallium Nitrate:

Human, intravenous: TD_{Lo} = 144 mg/kg

Mammal, skin: 500 mg (severe irritation)

Mouse, oral: LD₅₀ = 4360 mg/kg

Gallium: No toxicity data found for elemental Ga.

Target Organ(s): Respiratory tract, skin, eyes, GI tract, bone marrow, kidneys, liver.

Mutagen/Teratogen: Nitric acid has caused birth defects in animals under experimental conditions, and has also been investigated as a possible mutagen. Gallium and gallium nitrate are classified as mutagens (RTECS).

Health Effects: See Section 3.

12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Nitric Acid, Ecotoxicity Data:

Green shore crab (*Carcinus maenas*): LC₅₀ (48 hrs) = 180,000 µg/L

Starfish (*Asterias rubens*): LC₅₀ (48 hrs) = 100,000 to 330,000 µg/L

Hooknose (*Agonus cataphractus*): LC₅₀ (48 hrs) = 100,000 to 330,000 µg/L

Gallium Nitrate: No ecotoxicity data found. Soluble salts of some other rare earth metals (such as lanthanum) are toxic to fish.

Gallium: No ecotoxicity data found. Gallium does not bioaccumulate.

Environmental Summary: At least one component of this mixture (nitric acid) is toxic to aquatic organisms. Do not release to the environment.

13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

Waste Disposal: One or more components of this mixture are a RCRA hazardous waste. Dispose of container and unused contents in accordance with federal, state, and local requirements for acid waste, which vary according to location. Decontaminate containers before recycling. Processing, use, or contamination of this product may change the waste management options.

14. TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

U.S. DOT and IATA: Nitric Acid Solution, Hazard Class 8, UN2031, Packing Group II

15. REGULATORY INFORMATION

U.S. REGULATIONS

CERCLA Sections 102a/103 (40 CFR 302.4):

Nitric Acid: RQ = 1000 lb.
Gallium Nitrate: Not regulated.
Gallium: Not regulated.

SARA Title III Section 302: Nitric acid is regulated.

SARA Title III Section 304: Nitric acid is regulated.

SARA Title III Section 313: Nitric acid and dysprosium nitrate are regulated.

OSHA Process Safety (29 CFR 1910.119): Nitric acid at higher concentrations ($\geq 94.5\%$) is regulated.

SARA Title III Sections 311/312 Hazardous Categories (40 CFR 370.21):

ACUTE:	Yes
CHRONIC:	Yes
FIRE:	No
REACTIVE:	Yes
SUDDEN RELEASE:	No

STATE REGULATIONS

California Proposition 65: None of the components are regulated.

CANADIAN REGULATIONS

WHMIS Classification:

Nitric Acid: C (oxidizing material), D1A (very toxic material), E (corrosive material)
Gallium Nitrate: C (oxidizing material)
Gallium: D2B (toxic material), E (corrosive material)

WHMIS Ingredient Disclosure List: All three components are regulated.

CEPA Domestic Substances List (DSL): Nitric acid and gallium are regulated.

CEPA Non-Domestic Substances List (NDSL): Gallium nitrate is regulated.

EUROPEAN REGULATIONS

EU/EC Classification:

Nitric Acid: O (Oxidizer), C (Corrosive)
Gallium Nitrate: O (Oxidizer); not classified in Annex I of Directive 67/548/EEC
Gallium: C (Corrosive), Xi (Irritant); not classified in Annex I of Directive 67/548/EEC

Risk Phrases (mixture):

R23 (toxic by inhalation)
R25 (toxic if swallowed)
R34 (causes burns)
R36/37/38 (irritating to eyes, respiratory system and skin)

Safety Phrases (mixture):

S20/21 (when using, do not eat, drink or smoke)
S28 (wash after contact with skin)
S45 (in case of accident or illness, see doctor; show label)
S60 (dispose of this material and its container as hazardous waste)

NATIONAL INVENTORY STATUS

U.S. Inventory (TSCA): All three components are listed.

TSCA 12(b), Export Notification: None of the components are listed.

16. OTHER INFORMATION

Sources:

Hazardous Substances Data Bank (HSDB): Gallium and Gallium Compounds.

IUCLID Dataset: Nitric Acid. European Commission, European Chemicals Bureau, 19 February 2000.

PAN Pesticide Database: Nitric Acid.

U.S. National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, *NIOSH Pocket Guide to Chemical Hazards*, September 2005 edition. DHHS (NIOSH) Publication No. 2005-151.

Disclaimer: Physical and chemical data contained in this MSDS are provided only for use as a guide in assessing the hazardous nature of the material. The MSDS was prepared carefully, using current references; however, NIST does not certify the data in the MSDS. The certified values for this material are given in the NIST Certificate of Analysis.